

BALTIMORE CITY--COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

CDBG SURVEY YEAR: 13
AREA: Mount Vernon Historic District

SURVEY NO.: B-1764
MAGI NO.: 0417647711



ADDRESS: 1030 North Charles Street
CURRENT NAME: Hynson, Westcott, & Dunning Pharmaceutical Laboratories

BLOCK: 505	LOT:	LOT SIZE:
HEIGHT: Three stories		MATERIALS: Stone, brick
CONDITION: Good		OWNER:
		ADDRESS:
USE:		ACCESSIBLE: Yes; restricted
DESIGNATION:		LIBER/FOLIO:

HISTORIC NAME: Hynson, Westcott, & Dunning Pharmaceutical Laboratories
DATE: 1922; 1928; 1942
ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Howard Sill/Hicks, Tase & Norris, Inc.
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE): Classical revival

DESCRIPTION:

The Hynson, Westcott, & Dunning Pharmaceutical Laboratories, located on the southwest corner of Charles and Chase Streets in the Mount Vernon Historic District of Baltimore City, is a group of four interconnected buildings forming an "L". The Charles Street elevation of the primary building is a three-story, three bay square, flat-roofed stone building with a rusticated first story containing a round arched opening, with anodized aluminum sash, in each bay. Colossal pilasters with modified Corinthian capitals after Asher Benjamin (The American Builder's Companion, plate 22, figure 5) are set above each first-story pier and support a denticulated cornice and flat parapet wall. The second story has a triangular pedimented window with consoles, 12 over 12 double hung sash, and wrought iron balustrades. The Chase street elevation is similar, but two first-story openings are infilled with small rectangular windows and the third is infilled with a rectangular door. To the west is a four-story, seven bay by three bay stucco building, with a four-story, three bay stucco addition on the southwest, and a two-story, four bay stucco addition to the south of this.

SIGNIFICANCE:

AREA: Health/Medicine; Architecture LEVEL: National; Local

The Hynson, Westcott, & Dunning Pharmaceutical Laboratories, in collaboration with Johns Hopkins University, developed the process for commercially producing Mercurochrome around 1919. The drug gradually became the most important and widely used antiseptic of its time. The firm was begun in 1889 in a building near the corner of Charles and Franklin Streets (see B-2098) by Drs. Henry P. Hynson and James W. Westcott. Dr. H.A.B. Dunning became a partner in the firm in 1901. In 1921 this lot was purchased, and the rowhouses, including the "old Perin property," were demolished to make way for the present building. The pharmacy and general offices were in the Indiana limestone building at the corner of Charles and Chase Streets, with a laboratory of brick and stucco to the west along Chase Street. The building was designed by Baltimore architect Howard Sill, who worked on the Congressional Library in Washington, the Baltimore Courthouse, the Federal Reserve Bank Buildings in Richmond, most of the Maryland State Sanitoriums at Sabillasville and Henryton, and the Baltimore Museum of Art with John Russell Pope. An ell was added along Morten Street in 1928 and extended in 1942.

SOURCES: Sanborn Map, v.2 #174; Baltimore, Mar. & Nov. 1939; The Sun: 9/18/1921, 1/19/1922, 2/1/1922, 4/1/1926, 7/24/1927, 12/16/1927, Philip K. Wilson, M.A., Medical History.

SURVEYOR AND DATE: Kenneth M. Short, December 1987

JACQUES KELLY

THE NEWS AMERICAN NEIGHBORHOODS COLUMNIST

The house Mercurochrome built

The stately old building at the southwest corner of Charles and Chase streets is the house that Mercurochrome built.

Across its wall, simple letters spell out "Hynson, Westcott & Dunning." It is not a law firm, but a drug manufacturing concern that has traded on this site since 1921. The operation will be moving to Hunt Valley, the property sold for a reported \$2 million. The firm is now a division of Becton, Dickinson, a large New Jersey-based pharmaceutical house.

Only a few weeks ago, as I'd walk down Morton Street, the alley that runs behind and parallel to Charles, I could hear the Hynson equipment grinding out pills and other medical products. I often thought about the accident of time that allowed this ancient firm to keep manufacturing in a residential neighborhood, across from the Hotel Belvedere, when most of its units had been transferred to Baltimore County and Hunt Valley.

Many older Baltimoreans recall the Hynson name because of its retail drugstore, whose "atmosphere is professional rather than commercial," from 1921 to 1953. Indeed it was professional. There was no lunch counter, no paperback books, no hair spray. The store had a dignified facade (it could have been an embassy) with bronze windows, marble floor, wood counters, tailored drapes and serious clerks.

There was a certain parallel growth of the firm with that of the Johns Hopkins Hospital. It was founded in 1889 (the same year Hopkins Hospital opened) by two pharmacists, Drs. James W. Westcott and Henry P. Hynson, who traded at 421 N. Charles St. In 1894 they were joined by Dr. Henry A.B. Dunning and went into the manufacture of scientific drugs. The firm maintained close connections with the medical school.

When Hopkins medical staff (Ira Remsen and Edward White) developed Mercurochrome as a substitute for iodine, Hynson's devised the process for its commercial production. In 1921 the firm moved to prominent retail production quarters that



The News American - James Keimartin
DRUG PLANT: Hynson, Westcott and Dunning is vacating its site at Charles and Chase where it has done business since 1921.

looked more like a bank or insurance company at Charles and Chase.

Older employees recall the sons of the founder Donning — Drs. Fitzgerald, Charles and H.A.B. — each had his own graceful window overlooking Charles Street and the Hotel Belvedere.

The business expanded as medical education and research improved. In 1934, when part of the plant caught fire, the flames and the water took on tints of blue, green, red and orange from the drugs stored on the burning floor.

During World War II, the lights never went out at Charles and Chase. The plant operated around the clock and hired hundreds of women for production of sulfanilamide. All U.S. fighting forces carried five grams of it, packaged in waterproof cellophane, to prevent infection of wounds.

In April 1943 the firm and its employees were awarded the Army-Navy E award "in recognition for work in producing drugs, diagnostic solutions and testing equipment far ahead of schedule." The firm also made equipment for testing carbon

dioxide in submerged submarines. It also devised rapid detection tests for syphilis and trichinosis.

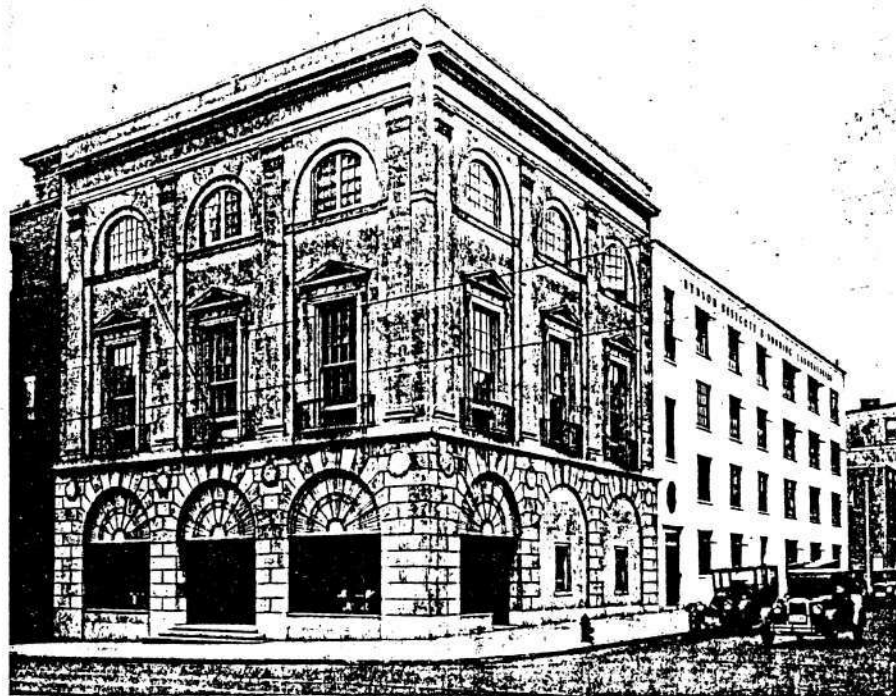
Baltimore physicians used Hynson's pharmacy to such an extent that the firm couldn't keep up with the costs of the telephone orders and having to maintain two delivery trucks, plus charge accounts, for about 10,000 customers. Five pharmacists — Anne Norton, Harry Ward, Jerome Itzoe, Jerome Murphy and James Barone — bought the retail operation and rechristened it the Chase Pharmacy at 17 W. Chase St., just around the corner from the mother location.

It was in turn bought in 1962 and moved three years later to 1101 N. Calvert St., at Chase, where the old Hynson's free scale still reveals customers' tonnage. A pair of wooden benches, show cabinets and a hand-crank cash register are on display. Dr. Ralph Crocamo still operates Chase Pharmacy in the same strictly professional manner, minus panty hose and garden hoses. And, for old times' sake, he keeps a sampling of 19th century prescription records and old Hynson, Westcott & Dunning bottles in his storeroom.

X-ref. B-2098

B-1764

Baltimore News - A
5-16-36



HYNSON, WESTCOTT AND DUNNING, Charles and Chase Streets—Exterior.

Hynson, Westcott, & Dunning Pharmaceutical Laboratories B-1764
1030 North Charles Street
Mount Vernon Historic District
Power Pictorial, September 1927, p.83.

ADDENDA

Current Name: Hynson, Westcott, & Dunning Pharmaceutical Laboratories
Address: 1030 North Charles Street

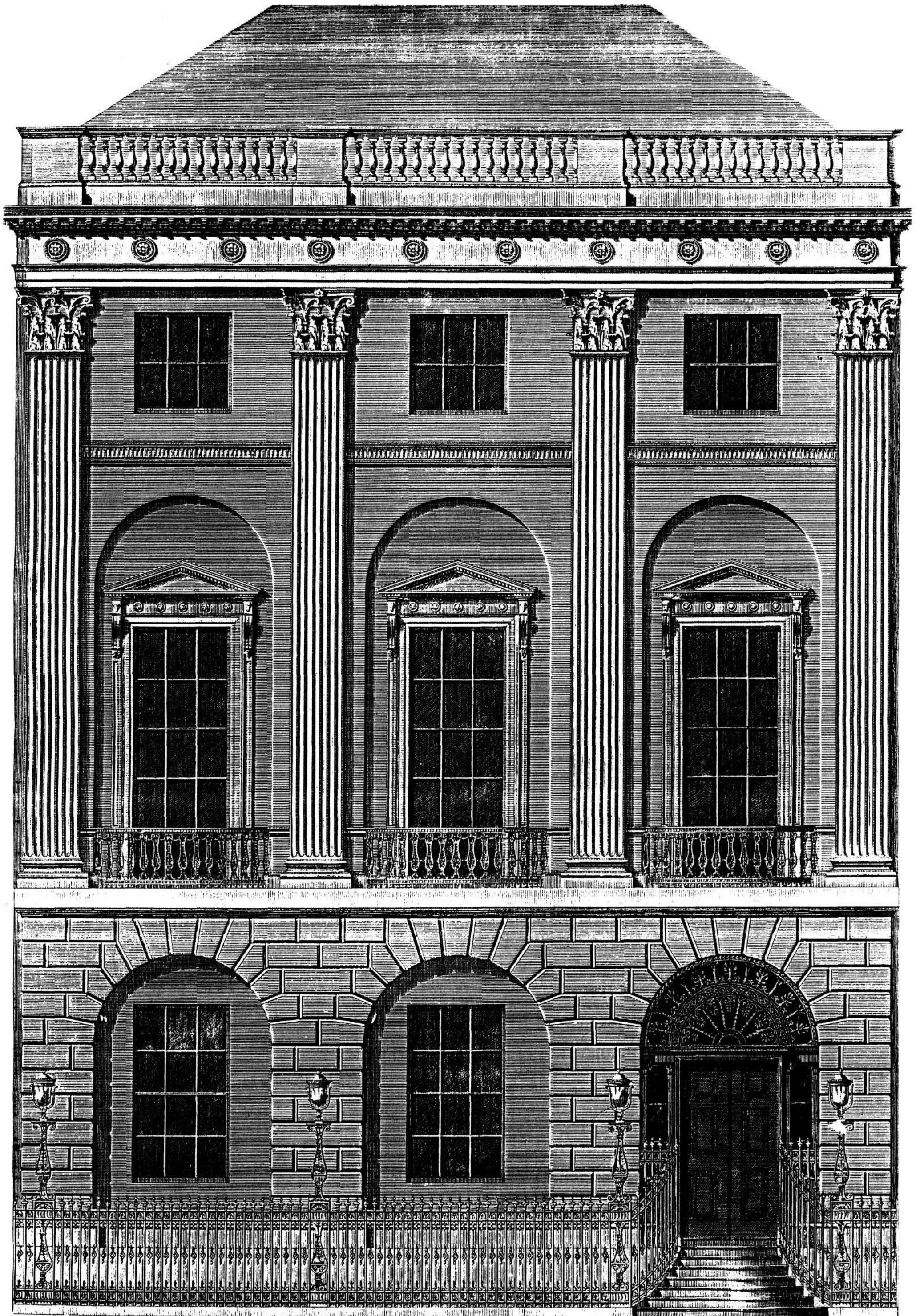
Significance:

The main pharmacy and office building, virtually a perfect cube at 50' x 50' x 52' high, was based on plate 50 of The Works in Architecture of Robert & James Adam, which depicts the facade of the house of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Baronet, in St. James's Square, London. The Adams remarked on this elevation that "it is not in a space of forty-six feet, which is the whole extent of the elevation, that an architect can make a great display of talents. Where variety and grandeur in composition cannot be obtained, we must be satisfied with a justness of proportion and an elegance of style."

Howard Sill removed the balcony and hipped roof from the top of his design, and simplified the cornice and some of the ornament, but otherwise followed the Adam precedent very closely. Sill retained the rusticated first story with arched openings, moved the door to the center for prominence, and added round medallions. The rectangular windows inset in the arched openings of the St. James's Square building probably provided the inspiration for Sill's similar treatment on the north elevation. Full-story rectangular windows with balustrades and pediments supported by consoles are a direct quotation from the Wynn House, but where the arches into which they are recessed are one story in the Adam design, Sill carried the recess through two stories, incorporating the third story windows and giving them segmental arches to match. The Corinthian pilasters were simplified by eliminating the fluting and using a modified Corinthian capital similar to that used by the Adam brothers on the office front of the St. James's Square project. They noted that the office front was of Portland stone. The choice of Indiana limestone for the pharmaceutical building is a logical one, then, to imitate this material. That the ornamental details of the Hynson, Westcott, & Dunning building are both simpler and more shallow than the prototype reflects the period in which it was built, when most classical revival architecture, like other revival architecture of the period, was simplified. This stripped-down classicism was, in part, an influence from early modern architecture. It's most renowned adherent was probably John Russell Pope, with whom Sill was to work in the late 1920's.

Sources: The Works in Architecture of Robert & James Adam, Vol. II, (London: Priestley and Weale, 1822; reprint ed., New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1980), p.15 and plates 50 and 52. Acknowledgements to Bob Quilter of the Baltimore City Planning Department for first bringing the Adam brothers design to my attention.

Surveyor: Kenneth M. Short, May 1988

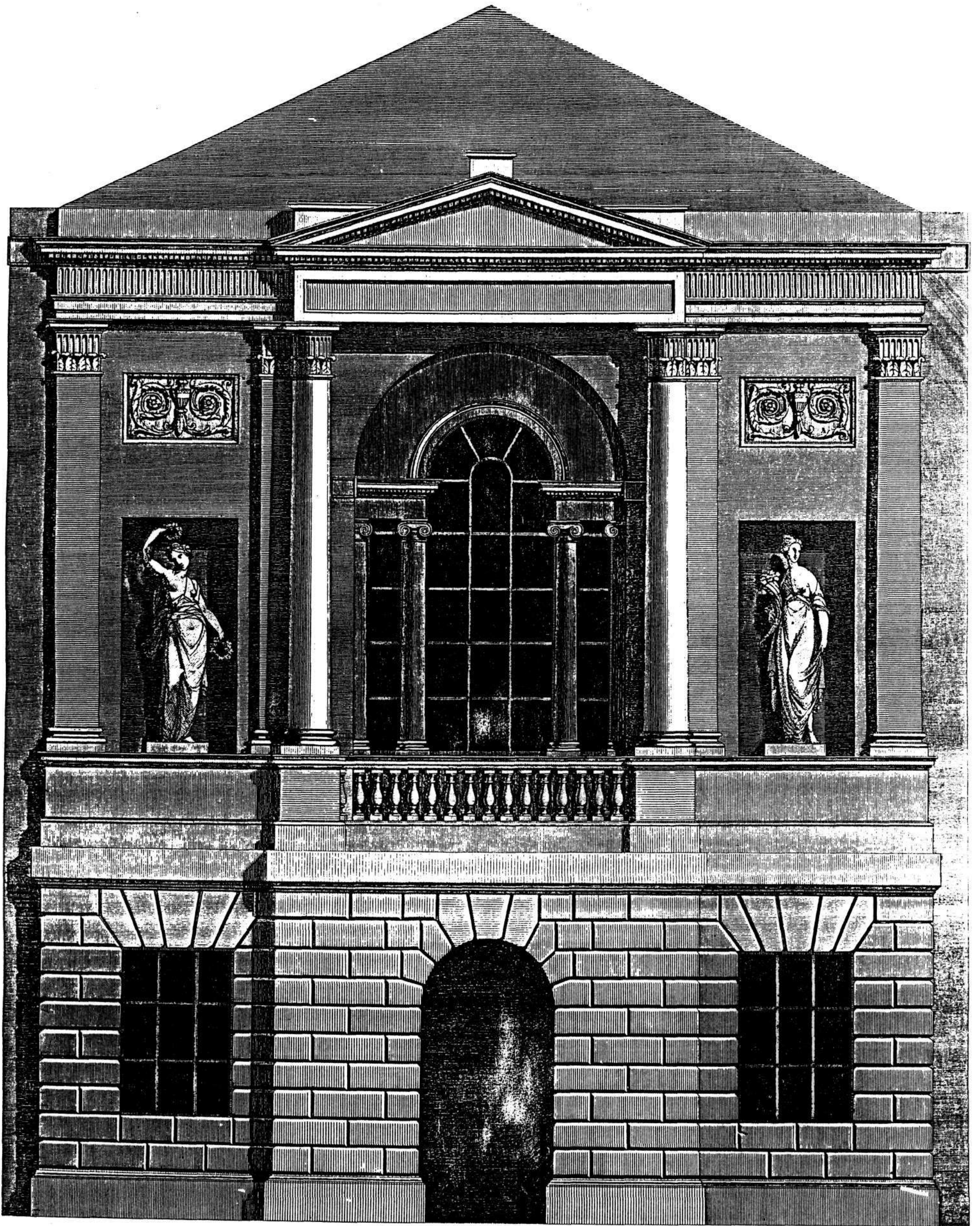


Hynson, Westcott, & Dunning Pharmaceutical Laboratories
1030 North Charles Street

B-1764

Elevation of the office towards the east court.

Scale of feet 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100



Hynson, Westcott, & Dunning Pharmaceutical Laboratories
1030 North Charles Street

B-1764

From: *The Works in Architecture of Robert & James Adam, Vol. II*, (London: Priestley and Weale, 1822;
reprint ed., New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1980), Plate 52.

Scale of feet 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100



Hynson, Westcott, & Dunning B-1764
Pharmaceutical Laboratory
1030 N. Charles St
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Kenneth M. Short
Date: December, 1987
Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
East Elev.



Hynson, Westcott, & Dunning B-1764
Pharmaceutical Laboratories
1030 N. Charles St.
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Kenneth M. Short
Date: December, 1987
Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Northeast elev.



Hynson, Westcott, & Dunning B-1764
Pharmaceutical Laboratories
1030 N. Charles St
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Kenneth M. Short
Date: December, 1987
Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Northwest elev.
3/3

MAGI #0417645911

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM

for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

B-1764

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: Hynson, Westcott, and Dunning Building				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: 1030 N. Charles St.				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY:		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Hynson, Westcott and Dunning, Inc.				
STREET AND NUMBER: 1030 N. Charles St.				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore		STATE: Maryland		21201
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Records Office, Room 601				
STREET AND NUMBER: Baltimore City Courthouse				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore		STATE: Maryland		21202
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): JFC 1537-26				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS 8/9/63				
TITLE OF SURVEY: City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation				
STREET AND NUMBER: Room 900, 26 S. Calvert Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore		STATE: Maryland		21202

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This proportionately-scaled, flat-roofed building is located on the corner of Charles and Chase Streets; it is three stories high, three bays wide along each facade, and fashioned in stone.

The ground floor along Charles street, of smooth rusticated stone blocks, is spanned by three large arches. Each is completely filled by a rectangular window (divided into five lightst by vertical mullions) topped by a fanlight; a marble foundation connects sill to ground. Each pier (featuring a medallion at arch height) meets the ground with a single-peice stone base. The rectangular door, with flat transom, opens from the center of the central arch, and is approached by three marble steps.

A string course separate the ground floor rfrom the smooth stone upper floors. Two story Corinthian pilasters rise above each pier, and within each bay is a two story, elongated recessed arch. These recessments house double-hung (9/9 lights) rectangular windows with flat stone rosetted lintels capped by bracketed pediments on the second floor. Bowed wrought-iron rails come forward from each window.

A string course, interrupted by the pilasters, separates the second story windows from those of the third story; the latter are smaller, arched coupled casement windows (12 lights to a side), framed by the crown of the aforementioned recessed arch.

An unadorned frieze, dentilled stone cornice and flat parapet top the facade.

The Chase St. facade is similar to that along Charles St., with the exception of the ground floor. Here, the right two arches are filled by smooth stone, each punctuated by a double-hung (6/6 lights) window surrounded by a recessed stone frame. The left bay contains a single rectangular door surrounded by wood framing.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This early 20th century building is important for several reasons. It is a fine example of Georgian Revival architecture whose flat, delicate detailing is reminiscent of the English Regency. The scale and traditional style are sympathetic to the 19th century buildings of the area, while its presence defines the corner of a block badly eroded by parking lots. Finally, the unobtrusive remodeling of the first floor facade demonstrates that modernization need not be as destructive as it so often is to older buildings.

SEE INST. INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	°	'	"		°	'	"	
NE	°	'	"		°	'	"	
SE	°	'	"		°	'	"	
SW	°	'	"		°	'	"	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 50' x 150'

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Paul Sussman and Marsha Rozansky, Planning Assistants		
ORGANIZATION Commission for Hist. and Arch. Preservation		DATE 10/75
STREET AND NUMBER: Room 900, 26 S. Calvert St.		
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore	STATE Maryland	21202

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

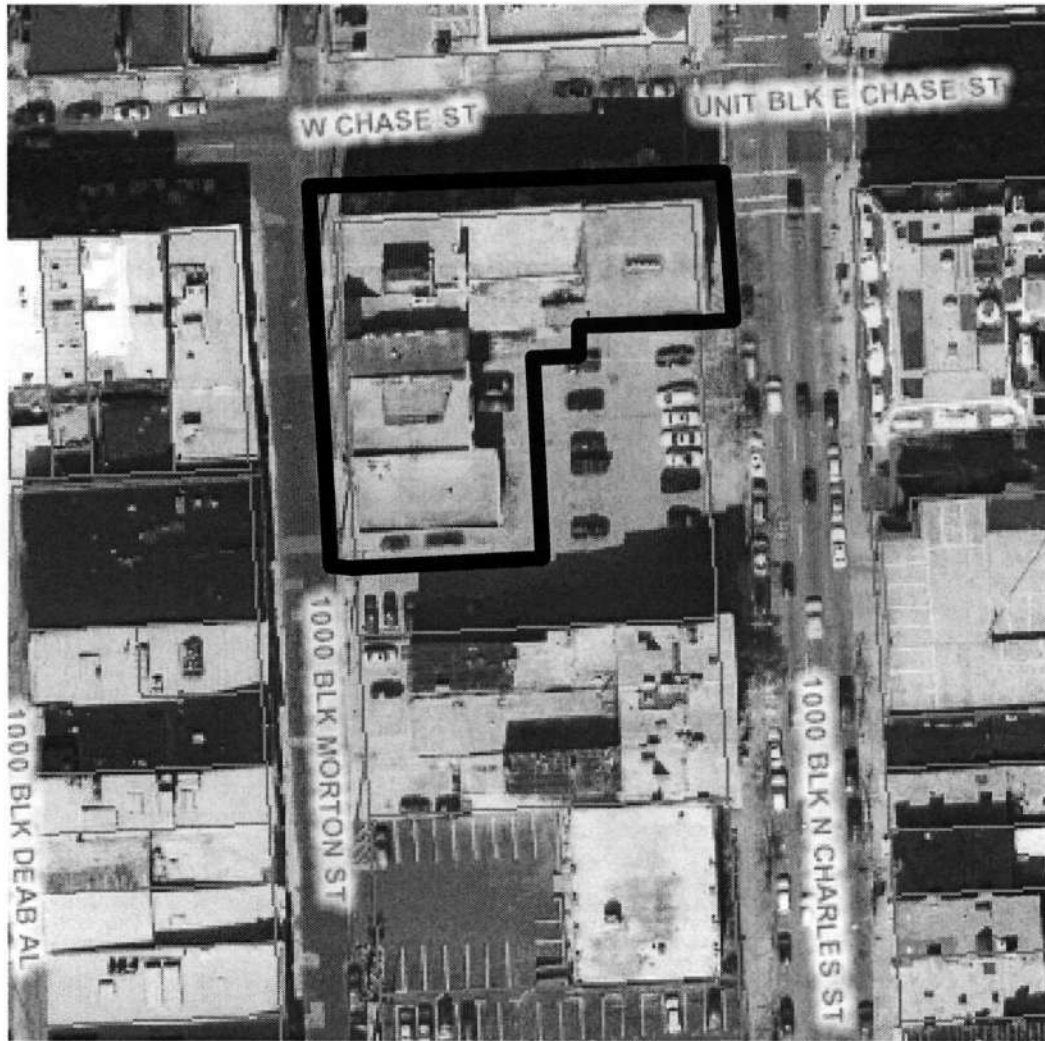
Signature _____

B-1764

Hynson, Westcott, and Dunning Building (Hynson, Westcott, & Dunning Pharmaceutical Laboratories)

1030 N. Charles Street, Baltimore

Baltimore City iMap image, 2006



REVISIONS

B-1764

494

AVE

495

W. CHASE

66'

ST.

MARYLAND

ALLEY

ST.

ST.

506

ST.

66'

CATHEDRAL

DEAB

MORTON

N. CHARLES

W. EAGER

66'

ST.

SUB PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 50' FT

511

510

TRACED BY DON R. GRIFFIN
LETTERED BY D.R.G.

THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER ARTICLE 76(d) OF THE CITY CHARTER. IT IS COMPILED FROM TITLE AND OTHER SOURCES AND IS NOT AN AUTHENTIC SURVEY.

NOTICE

THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER ARTICLE 76(d) OF THE CITY CHARTER. IT IS COMPILED FROM TITLE AND OTHER SOURCES AND IS NOT AN AUTHENTIC SURVEY.

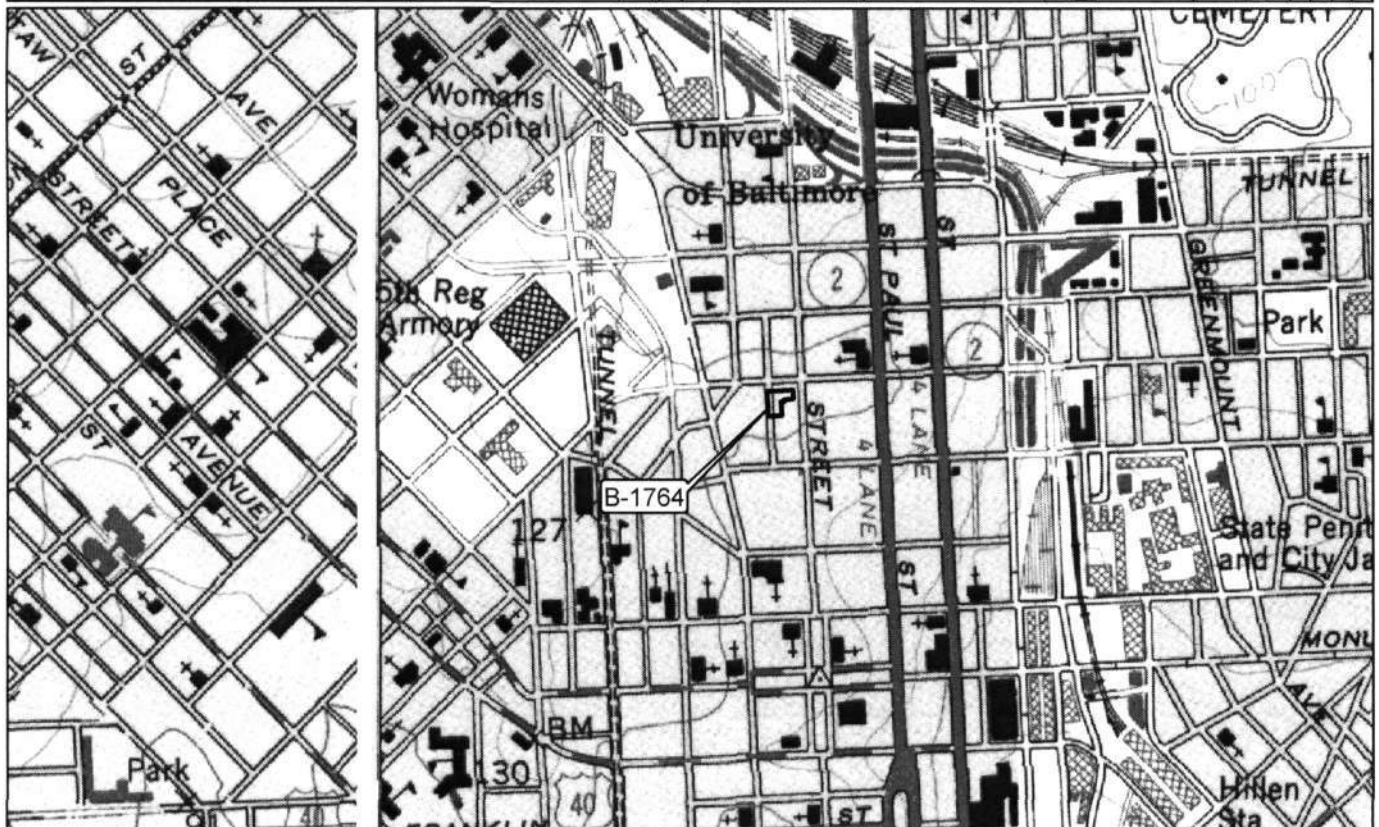
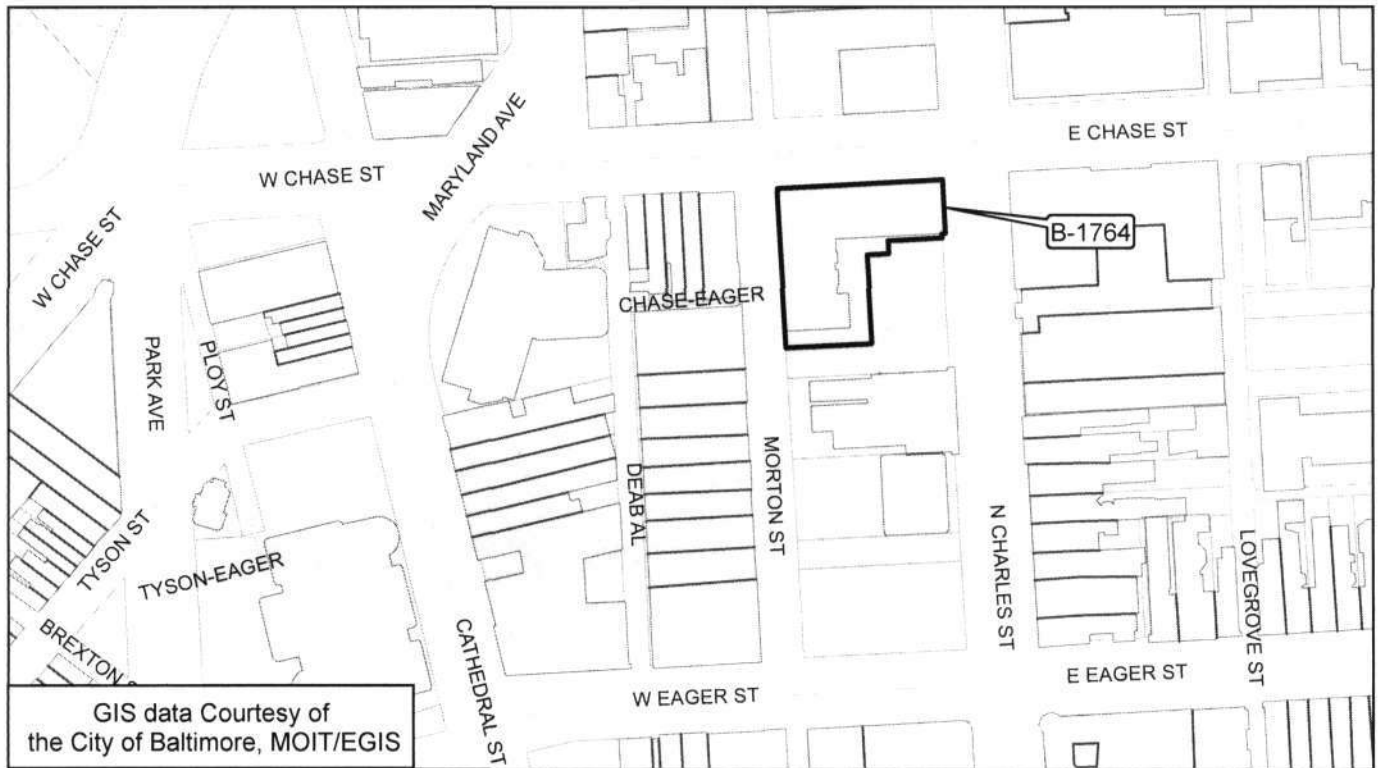
CITY OF BALTIMORE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION

WARD 11 SECTION 2
BLOCK 505

SCALE: 1" = 50' FT DATE: JANUARY-1967

B-1764
Hunson, Westcott, and Dunning Building
1030 N. Charles Street
Block 0505, Lot 011
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





1030 W. Charles

B-1764

B/K SOS

Neg 1 & R3 A18